



Australian Capital Territory

# Retirement Villages Amendment Regulation 2025 (No 1)

Subordinate Law SL2025-1

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The Australian Capital Territory Executive makes the following regulation under the *Retirement Villages Act 2012*.

Dated 19 February 2025.

ANDREW BARR  
Chief Minister

TARA CHEYNE  
Minister

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[Retirement Villages Act 2012](#)

## Contents

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		Page
1	Name of regulation	1
2	Commencement	1
3	Legislation amended	1
4	New sections 18A to 18C	1
5	Section 20 (1)	4
6	New section 20 (1) (c)	4

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J2024-646

Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel—also accessible at [www.legislation.act.gov.au](http://www.legislation.act.gov.au)

## Contents

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	Page
7	Section 20 (3), definition of <i>hold the same office</i> 4
8	Schedule 4, section 4.1, definition of <i>returning officer</i> 5
9	Schedule 4, section 4.3 (1) 5
10	Schedule 4, section 4.4 (1) 5
11	Schedule 4, section 4.4 (3) 6
12	Schedule 4, section 4.8 (2) and (3), except note 6
13	Schedule 4, section 4.8 (4) (d) and (e) 6
14	Schedule 4, section 4.9 (1) (b) 7
15	Dictionary, notes 1 and 2 7
16	Dictionary, note 3 7
17	Dictionary, new definition of <i>prevention of elder abuse strategy</i> 7

**1 Name of regulation**

This regulation is the *Retirement Villages Amendment Regulation 2025 (No 1)*.

**2 Commencement**

This regulation commences 3 months after its notification day.

*Note* The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see [Legislation Act](#), s 75 (1)).

**3 Legislation amended**

This regulation amends the *Retirement Villages Regulation 2013*.

**4 New sections 18A to 18C**

*in division 5.2, insert*

**18A Prevention of elder abuse strategy—Act, s 91 (2) (h)**

- (1) The operator of a retirement village must prepare, and take all reasonable steps to give effect to, a written strategy for identifying and preventing elder abuse in the village (a *prevention of elder abuse strategy*).
- (2) The strategy must include the following:
  - (a) examples of common forms of elder abuse, including specific examples in relation to retirement villages;
  - (b) information about how to—
    - (i) identify elder abuse, including signs of elder abuse; and
    - (ii) prevent elder abuse;

- (c) information about how to respond to elder abuse or suspected elder abuse, including—
  - (i) how to report elder abuse or suspected elder abuse to the operator and the period within which the operator can be expected to respond to a report; and
  - (ii) how to make an older people service complaint to the human rights commission; and
  - (iii) how to report a matter to another suitable entity;
- (d) an explanation of the roles and responsibilities of the operator and the operator’s staff in relation to elder abuse in the village;
- (e) information about how to access the services and resources of local service or support agencies;

**Examples—local service or support agencies**

- 1 Human Rights Commission
- 2 ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal

- (f) the date the strategy is finalised.

- (3) In this section:

***elder abuse***, in a retirement village, means an act or omission by any person that causes or allows the exploitation, mistreatment, harm or neglect of a resident of the village.

***older people service complaint***—see the *Human Rights Commission Act 2005*, dictionary.

*Note* Under the *Human Rights Commission Act 2005*, a person may complain to the commission about a service for older people (see that *Act*, s 41), including a service provided by the operator of a retirement village (see that *Act*, s 53G).

**18B Prevention of elder abuse strategy—publication and availability**

- (1) As soon as practicable after preparing a prevention of elder abuse strategy for a retirement village, the operator of the village must publish the strategy in a way that is likely to come to the attention of the following people:
  - (a) a resident of the village;
  - (b) an individual who accesses the village’s website;
  - (c) an individual who tells the operator that the individual or a family member of the individual is interested in becoming a resident of the village.
- (2) For subsection (1), the operator must—
  - (a) display a copy of the strategy on a notice board in a communal area within the village; and
  - (b) publish the strategy in any other way the operator considers appropriate.

**Examples—par (b)**

    - 1 give each resident a copy of the strategy
    - 2 publish the strategy on the village’s website
    - 3 include the strategy in a brochure about the village
- (3) The operator must also take reasonable steps to ensure that all the operator’s staff are familiar with the strategy.
- (4) If a person asks the operator for its prevention of elder abuse strategy, the operator must make the strategy available to the person within 2 business days after the day the person asks for it.

**18C Prevention of elder abuse strategy—review**

- (1) The operator of a retirement village must review village’s prevention of elder abuse strategy at least once every 2 years from the day the strategy is published under section 18B (2).
- (2) If the operator makes any changes to the strategy as a result of a review under subsection (1)—
  - (a) the revised strategy is taken to be a new prevention of elder abuse strategy; and
  - (b) section 18B applies to the operator in relation to the new strategy.

**5 Section 20 (1)**

*omit*

the residents committee of a retirement village

*substitute*

the residents committee for a retirement village

**6 New section 20 (1) (c)**

*insert*

- (c) the person is the only person standing for election to the office.

**7 Section 20 (3), definition of *hold the same office***

*substitute*

***hold the same office***, on a residents committee for a retirement village, includes to hold an office performing the same (or substantially the same) functions on the committee.

**Examples—office**

president, treasurer, secretary



**8 Schedule 4, section 4.1, definition of *returning officer***

*omit*

section 4.6

*substitute*

section 4.3

**9 Schedule 4, section 4.3 (1)**

*omit*

The residents of a retirement village

*substitute*

The residents committee for a retirement village

**10 Schedule 4, section 4.4 (1)**

*substitute*

- (1) Before the meeting for a written ballot, the ballot papers must be prepared by—
  - (a) the residents committee for the retirement village; or
  - (b) if the residents committee has not convened the meeting or there is no residents committee for the village—the operator of the village.
- (1A) Enough ballot papers must be prepared so that a ballot paper can be given to each qualified voter.

**11 Schedule 4, section 4.4 (3)**

*omit*

initialled by the returning officer

*substitute*

initialled by the person who prepared the ballot paper

**12 Schedule 4, section 4.8 (2) and (3), except note**

*substitute*

- (2) Each resident of the village must be given at least 21 days written notice of the meeting by—
  - (a) the residents committee for the village; or
  - (b) if the residents committee has not convened the meeting or there is no residents committee for the village—the operator of the village.
- (3) However, for a vote under the Act, section 112 (5) in relation to a special resolution at a meeting, each resident must be given at least 14 days written notice of the meeting.

**13 Schedule 4, section 4.8 (4) (d) and (e)**

*substitute*

- (d) state that, if a resident wishes to cast their vote before the meeting, the resident may—
  - (i) ask the entity that convened the meeting for a ballot paper; and
  - (ii) cast a postal vote in accordance with section 4.9.

**14 Schedule 4, section 4.9 (1) (b)**

*substitute*

- (b) if the residents committee has not convened the meeting or there is no residents committee for the village—the operator of the village.

**15 Dictionary, notes 1 and 2**

*substitute*

*Note 1* The [Legislation Act](#) contains definitions relevant to this regulation. For example:

- Act
- [Corporations Act](#)
- director-general (see s 163)
- domestic partner (see s 169 (1))
- fail
- human rights commission.

**16 Dictionary, note 3**

*renumber as note 2*

**17 Dictionary, new definition of *prevention of elder abuse strategy***

*insert*

*prevention of elder abuse strategy*—see section 18A (1).

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## Endnotes

**1 Notification**

Notified under the [Legislation Act](#) on 27 February 2025.

**2 Republications of amended laws**

For the latest republication of amended laws, see [www.legislation.act.gov.au](http://www.legislation.act.gov.au).

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